

The Africa Appeal

Of the Traditional Anglican Church of Canada

Parishes of St. Columba of Iona &

St. Bride of Kildare.

January 2012

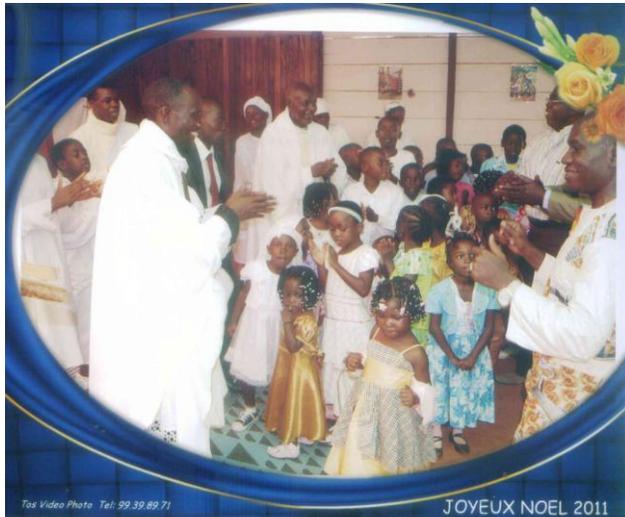
Here we are at last: it is almost the end of January, the end of Epiphany, and the start of our time of reflection leading to Lent with Septuagesima just around the corner! In the last Appeal letter, I spoke of achievements to be reported: and we have the numbers, but I shall start with some photographs, which tell a far better story: from the first Christmas at the primary school in Yaoundé – L'École Primaire St. Augustin.



The bulk of the funding for this school has come from three magnificent bequests received by Anglican Aid Abroad in Australia, but, as we might anticipate, sometimes, costs are a little higher than we expect, and incomes a little lower, so we with the Appeal have been trying to handle the emergent situations of shortages of funding to pay the rent, the teachers salaries of some \$100 per month, equipment etc:

and above all the rental costs of the building. All of these costs will be covered by the operations of the school: this is what was proposed for the project, and looks to be sound: it is in this interim period of the first months and years that the challenges are to be found: so here is a need: as the ideal would be to avoid the costs of rental, and purchase a building: but in Yaoundé it would cost \$15,000 - \$20,000 for land to build a school, or \$40,000 to buy the existing building (these are current values in the city, and can be checked on the internet).





But perhaps this is all wishful thinking: we have had great trouble just trying to encourage the landlord not to evict the school: students, teachers and all!

In the photo to the left, we can see the children singing a song together with Fr. Alphonse at left, and Fr. Petrus at their side. What an accomplishment, to have built this with so very little!

And the second photograph shows the student body and teachers at the parish of St. André, Ngoulemekong, Yaoundé.



So, what have we done to help this project of building a new church? The total we had received this past year has been \$12,420.00. This is down from earlier days of the Africa Appeal, but reflects the major reduction in the number of benefactors with the change from the potential support of over 30 parishes to the situation in the church today, and our 9 parishes and numerous benefactors across Canada.

Of this sum received, we have been able to send to Cameroon and Congo the total of \$14,150.00, as there was a balance of \$1730.00 carried forward from 2010 to January 2011.

Because the church in Cameroon was receiving no other financial support for clergy living expenses, general parish costs etc., we have had to concentrate our efforts on this one country, even at a time when the needs of the church in Congo are still so very important.

The one project we were able to support in Congo has been the widows' agriculture project in the parish of St. François d'Assise, Mosho. We had requests to help with rent and other expenses, but as Fr. Ayule-Milenge was receiving some help from the Missionary Society of St. Paul (ACC-OP), we had to decide where the limited amounts of money we had received could provide the greatest help. Of course, the matter is in the hands of the benefactors: so if the work we are trying to accomplish appeals to you, please consider a gift to the Africa Appeal: as all funds received are sent to support the work of our brothers and sisters in Christ. Costs to send the funds are carried by the parish and/or the one sending the funds.

The act of giving for this sort of work is what we have been called to consider in the second great commandment, 'Love thy neighbour as thyself': it is an example of the 13th chapter of St. Paul's first letter to the Corinthians, where we read: 'Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not charity, I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal. And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge; and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not charity, I am nothing. And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, and have not charity, it profiteth me nothing. Charity suffereth long, and is kind; charity envieth not; charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up, Doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil; Rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth; Beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things.'

When we decide to give our hard earned money to a charity, it is always hard to determine whether the recipients are truly deserving of this support that we are able, by the Grace of God, to offer. In the case of this Africa Appeal, we are dealing with people we know, people with whom we are in regular contact: and where the work is under the supervision and authority of Archbishop Mark Haverland, as well as Canon Stephen Scarlett of the Missionary Society of St. Paul, and lastly, of our appeal, in accordance with the regulations established by Charities Canada, a division of the Canada Revenue Agency. Of course, all donations from Canadian sources will be furnished a tax receipt.

Funds can be sent to either:

Parish of St. Bride of Kildare,
c/o Mr. A. Ferguson (treasurer)
20895 Camwood Avenue,
Maple Ridge, BC
V2X 2N9

or Parish of St. Columba of Iona, Whitworth
c/o Mr. D. Whitworth (treasurer)
11070B Sunshine Coast Highway,
Halfmoon Bay BC
V0N 1Y2

In closing, I would like to personally offer you my thanks for all the support given to the Africa Appeal, and for all that this \$14,000 has been able to achieve, and may we continue with this work, sharing in the joy and accomplishment of these neighbours of ours who live in such a different society, and yet have the same faith, the same hope of salvation, the same Jesus Christ.

In Christ,
David+